



SP STARTS CASE—C. S. MacKenzie, assistant general auditor at the Southern Pacific San Francisco office, was the first witness yesterday as SP began its case to prove abandonment of passenger service between Eugene and Medford is justifiable. MacKenzie presented 15 exhibits of statistics on equipment, passenger travel, revenue and similar aspects of their

service before it was discontinued in August, 1955. He contended, however, no complete records were kept for the 10 years prior to abandonment of passenger service in southern Oregon. Complainants had asked to see records for the 10-year period. —(Brainard photo)

Fourth Witness Takes Stand in Hearing On Abandonment of Passenger Service

Charles B. Nines, engineer in transportation research, San Francisco, took the stand this morning as SP's fourth witness in a hearing here to determine whether or not discontinuance of SP's passenger runs between Eugene and Ashland was justified. Nines brought with him a one-inch thick report on surveys he has made on the company's now defunct passenger line in southern Oregon.

Brought Reports
He also brought reports on surveys involving other railway companies and similar services covered by them. The SP report covers expenses for the week of April 8-14 and revenues for the year ending April 30, 1955, involving the two trains which operated on the Eugene-Ashland run prior to abandonment of passenger service in August, 1955.

He said his report will also show cost of operating the trains under current cost levels. His testimony was interrupted at noon when the hearing was recessed until 1:30 p.m.

Complainants voiced an objection to admission of Nines's

exhibits on grounds they have not been properly identified and they are irrelevant since there is nothing to show the figures are more than estimates. Examiner Clifford W. Ferguson said he would neither admit nor reject the exhibits until cross-examination was finished.

Edwin S. Hall, San Francisco, assistant manager of the SP's mail, baggage and express traffic, the company's second witness at the hearing, took the stand at 9:30 a.m. today to con-

tinued testimony from Monday afternoon. He was questioned as to complaints the company had received on its railway mail service and events leading to truck transportation of mail on the Eugene-Ashland run.

He contended the company had received no formal complaints on its service though SP had received comments from postal authorities concerning "infrequent" late service. He added that prior to 1951 railway mail service had been de-

ferred to trucks on the average of "once or twice a week." Hall said attempts had been made since that time to adhere more closely to schedules.

Hall is also an official of Pacific Motor Transport company, which now transports mail under agreement with Southern Pacific, between Portland and Ashland. He was questioned extensively on terms of the SP-PMT agreement, a copy of which has been admitted as a complainant's exhibit. Also admitted as defense exhibits were 24 pages of letters, copies of letters and telegrams concerning mail transport service.

Third Witness
Southern Pacific's third witness, John E. Skogstad, PMT district manager from Portland, testified that his company had made a capital investment of \$212,092 in the change of mail service from railway to truck transport. He said the total figure represented \$69,142 spent on three highway post office units; and \$142,950 for 10 semi-trailers and eight diesel units.

Southern Pacific attorneys said today there is a possibility the hearing will extend beyond Friday. Only SP's side of the controversy is being aired at the current hearing. The "people's" case was presented at a two-day hearing last April. Though the federal courtroom was filled to capacity for the April hearing, only about 12 people have been in attendance at the current session.

Complainants in the case are Senators Phil Lowry, Medford, Gene Brown, Grants Pass, and Paul Geddes, Roseburg.

Freight Truck Burns On Siskiyou Summit

The body of southbound Oregon-Nevada-California freight truck was reported completely burned this morning in a fire on Highway 99 on Siskiyou summit.

State police said that canvas on the truck apparently was ignited from the exhaust. Two state forestry department pumps, one from Ashland and one from Medford, were dispatched to the scene and the blaze was confined to the truck.

Driver of the vehicle was Howard (Pop) Burleigh, Redding, Calif.

Democrats Name Platform Drafters

Chicago — (U.P.) — Democratic party peace makers today named a slate of platform drafters patently handicapped to compromise the hot civil rights issue threatening to split the party's convention.

The 15-member drafting sub-committee, plus Rep. John W. McCormack (D-Mass.), chairman of the full Platform Committee, included five Southerners and the first reaction of Southern delegates to the appointments was favorable.

McCormack named to the group former Gov. John S. Battle of Virginia, Gov. J. P. Coleman of Mississippi, Sen. Sam Ervin Jr. of North Carolina, Rep. Brooks Hays of Arkansas, and Vann H. Kennedy of Texas.

In addition to himself as chairman and an ex-officio member, McCormack also named Miss Grace Hudlin of Oklahoma, Mrs. Emma Guffey Miller of Pennsylvania, Rep. Graeie Post of Idaho, Rep. Emanuel Celler of New York, Rep. William L. Dawson of Illinois, former Gov. Paul Dever of Massachusetts, Sen. Theodore Francis Green of Rhode Island, Rep. John Moss of California, Sen. Joseph O'Mahoney of Wyoming and former Rep. Jennings Randall of West Virginia.

(See Story on Page 5)

Medford Council Calls for Bids on Improvement Work

Bids on two paving projects and one water main installation were called by the Medford city council last night.

Bids will be received until 11 a.m. Monday, Aug. 20, on paving Ashland ave. from Ninth st. to 11th st. and Greenway drive and Greenway circle. Bids also will be received for construction of a six-inch water main on Crestbrook rd. from Modoc ave. to Ellendale dr., and on Ellendale dr. from Crestbrook rd. to Barnett rd.

The improvement projects were authorized by the council last night.

Bids also have been called for construction of a Southeast Medford trunk sewer line and for

Unemployment Shows Decrease in County

Unemployment in Jackson county at the end of July was 11 per cent less than a month ago, and 20 per cent below the same time last year, John J. Patton, manager of the Medford office of the state employment office, said today.

Estimated unemployment July 31 was 450, including 200 women.

Washington — (U.P.) — Employment hit a new record in July for the second straight month, the government reported today.

The number of jobholders rose 152,000 last month to a total of 66,655,000.

Patton said the figure represents persons seeking regular full time employment and does not include those who do only seasonal work, he said.

The total estimated unemployment in the county, Patton said, represents less than 2 per cent of the labor force in the county. Patton noted that the recent high level of business activity

Appointments For Bloodmobile Visit Reach 213 at Noon

A total of 213 appointments had been made up to about noon today for the August visit of the Bloodmobile, according to Red Cross office. Appointments made yesterday afternoon and this morning totaled 112.

The Bloodmobile will be at the Elks temple, 202 North Central ave., until 5 p.m. today. The goal for this visit is 300 pints. Red Cross officials pointed out, and added that only once during the past two years has the Bloodmobile goal been reached.

Persons between the ages of 18 and 59 and in good health may donate blood. Walk-in donors will be welcome this afternoon. Red Cross officials said.

Voter Registration Deadline October 6

Deadline for registration of voters for the Nov. 6 election is Oct. 6, according to Mrs. Bereth Hopkins, county clerk. Mrs. Hopkins said voters can register in the county clerk's office in the courthouse until 8 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 6.

Weather

FORECAST: Afternoon and evening thunderstorms over mountains. Otherwise fair through Thursday. Low tonight 34. High Thursday 50-51.

Highest Yesterday 48
Lowest this Morning 35

Our Skies Tonight
Sunrise 5:11 a.m.
Sunset 7:23 p.m.
Moonset 8:24 p.m.
First Quarter Aug. 13

PROMINENT STARS
Altair, high in south-east 8:55 p.m.
Arcturus, in the west 9:42 p.m.
VISIBLE PLANETS
Mars, rises 9:28 p.m.
Saturn, in the south-west 9:16 p.m.
Venus, rises 7:22 a.m.

Ike Plans Another Health Check Prior To Elections in November

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Wilson's Description of Suez Canal Crisis Rapped

Humphrey Brands Defense Official's Remark 'Shocking'

Confidence Expressed In Conference Table

Washington — (U.P.) — Sen. Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) today branded as "nothing short of shocking" Defense Secretary

London — (U.P.) — India announced today it would attend the 24-nation Suez Canal conference in London. Informed sources said it would present a compromise plan aimed at averting war in the Middle East.

Charles E. Wilson's description of the Suez Canal crisis as a "relatively small thing."

Humphrey, a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and avowed candidate for the Democratic vice presidential nomination, said Wilson's phrase was a "master example of understatement of a very critical situation."

Situation Called Grave
President Eisenhower said last week that the canal dispute represents a "grave" situation that has to be "handled with care."

Wilson's comment on Suez came when he was asked by reporters Tuesday how the Suez situation might affect U. S. military planning. He replied that the nation must maintain a stable military force and not be upset by "ripples" on the international scene. Then he added:

"We can't flip up and down with such relatively small things." Wilson said he meant that he hoped the canal controversy would remain "a local friction and not become something that involves the East and West." He said the United States should lend its influence toward a fair settlement of the controversy "rather than wave the big stick."

Confidence Expressed

He expressed confidence that the issue could be settled "if people will face the problem over the conference table" before there is an outbreak of shooting.

Informed sources said that the United States is seriously concerned that Britain and France may decide to use military force instead of waiting for a political settlement. They said Secretary of State John Foster Dulles believes use of force is unjustified, and that such a step would place Britain and France in a bad moral position in the eyes of the rest of the world.

Washington — (U.P.) — The Atomic Energy commission has announced that it will build a small nuclear power plant designed for remote military bases at its reactor testing station in Idaho.



EARL MILLER
Won't Seek Reelection



JOHN SNIDER
Announces Candidacy

Miller Not Candidate; Snider Seeking Post

Medford's Mayor Earl Miller announced last night he would not be a candidate for reelection this fall.

John Snider, who has been president of the city council for two years, announced he would be a candidate for mayor. He is now a councilman from ward I.

Mayor Miller said he made the decision not to seek reelection after "several weeks of consideration, because of business and personal health matters."

Honor, Privilege

He said "It has been an honor and a privilege to have had the opportunity to serve the people of Medford as a member of their municipal government during the past several years, particularly as your Mayor and it is with much regret that I must withdraw myself as a candidate, but a much needed rest is important."

Miller has been mayor since January, 1955, when he succeeded the late Diamond L. Flynn after election to a two-year term. Prior to that he served on the council.

Snider has been a member of the council six years. He was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Neil Davidson in 1950, and was elected in 1952. During his council terms he has been chairman of the airport committee, and a member of the police, land and parks committees.

Snider, who lives at 2327 East Main st., was born and raised in Medford, and attended Medford schools and the University of San Francisco. He served 3 1/2 years in the Army, in the finance department, and is manager and co-owner of Snider's Dairy.

Membership Listed
Snider is a member of the board of directors of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce, and the lay advisory board of Sacred Heart church.

He also is a member of the American Legion, the University club and the Elks club. He is married and has three school age children.

The council last night ratified the appointment of Dr. Arnold M. Depner, 1013 South Oakdale ave., to succeed Dick Woodcock as councilman from ward II. Woodcock resigned recently because he moved from the ward.

Four council terms will expire this year, and candidates have

announced intentions for three of the positions.

Frank Edward (Ed) Hall, 712 East Jackson st., has announced his candidacy for councilman from ward I; Anthony R. (Tony) Manno, 646 South Holly st., has announced his candidacy for councilman from ward II; and Mrs. Marina S. Gates, 729 West Fourth st., and R. L. VanSickle, 53 Myers court, have announced candidacies for council positions from ward III.

Harold Frye, present councilman from ward III, has announced he will not seek reelection after serving on the council for 16 years, and Jack Fitzgerald, councilman from ward IV, has not decided if he will seek reelection.

Clarify Boundaries
The council last night clarified ward boundaries, which had been indefinite and ambiguous because of recent annexations. The only change in ward boundaries is in the eastern section, where ward I is that area east of the tracks, south of East Main st. to the east line of Black Oak dr. and north of Hillcrest rd. to the east city limits.

Ward IV is that part east of the tracks, south of East Main st. to the east line of Black Oak dr. and south of Hillcrest rd. to the east city limits.

Ward II and III remain the same — Ward II west of the tracks and north of West Main st., and Ward III west of the tracks south of West Main st.

GOP Central Group Slates Meeting

The Jackson County Republican Central committee will meet to outline plans for election campaigns next Monday at 7:30 p.m. at the Medford High school cafeteria. Mrs. Frank Bash, chairman, will preside.

Notices for the meeting are in the mail, and precinct committeemen and women and block workers have been asked to attend. Mrs. Bash said.

A meeting of the executive committee and area leaders was held this week at Mrs. Bash's home.

Mrs. Bash said campaign material is available at Republican headquarters in the Leverette building, 205 West Main st.

News Conference Informed of Hope In Suez Dispute

Pledge To Reveal Fitness Renewed

Washington — (U.P.) — President Eisenhower disclosed today he will undergo another physical examination before the November election to make sure there has been no change in his fitness for a second term.

He pledged once again to tell the people if he has any reason to believe his health bars him from carrying through another four years in the White House. Mr. Eisenhower made the statements at regular weekly news conference in which questioning reflected mounting interest in the coming presidential election. The President is assured of a second term nomination.

Trip To San Francisco
Mr. Eisenhower said he has no plans for a vacation other than to remain in the San Francisco area three or four days after the GOP convention. He plans to go to the convention on his last day.

The chief executive also voiced hope that the critical situation involving Egypt's nationalization of the Suez Canal will be settled without resort to military force. But he carefully avoided any statement that the United States would be opposed to force under any circumstances and he refused to say whether he feels Britain and France are justified in sending military reinforcements to the Suez area.

1. He feels he has made his position perfectly clear on the "dump Nixon" campaign of Harold E. Stassen and he does not intend to discuss it again.

2. He also again counseled patience in solving the school integration problem in the South. He said certain reforms have to be achieved by education no matter how much law we have. But he said that under terms of the Supreme Court order local federal district courts probably will have to take some cognizance if school districts begin a new term this fall without taking any action at all toward eventual integration.

3. Denied he had abandoned his flexible farm price support policies and scoffed at a Democrat's charge that the soil bank was a "brazen" attempt to buy votes.

2. Commented indirectly on a report in Robert Donovan's book on the administration that he once wished to start a third party.

Mr. Eisenhower laughed heartily when a woman reporter asked him if his choice of the Republican party was "a case comparable to a woman 'marrying a man to reform him.'" The question was in reference to Mr. Eisenhower's past statements that he wants to rebuild and in some ways reorient the GOP.

He said one reason he became the Republican candidate for President in 1952 was his conviction that after one party had been in power for 20 years abuses invariably occur which that party is incapable of straightening out. He said a change was needed to get an effective house cleaning.

Five-Acre Fire Burns Brush Near Shady Cove

State forestry department patrolmen reported a five-acre fire igniting from brush yesterday morning in the Longbranch area about one mile southwest of Shady Cove.

They said that the blaze started from debris which was being burned without a permit. Two state crews and Shady Cove firemen battled the flames.

Salern — (U.P.) — Robert H. Lemon, Eugene, has been named as a member of the state board of accountancy.

Repayment Contract Between Talent District, Government to be Discussed

Details of a proposed contract between the Talent Irrigation district and the bureau of reclamation for the repayment of the irrigation costs of the Talent project will be discussed at a meeting in Talent Friday.

Landowners of the district are invited to attend to ask any questions they may have about the proposal. The meeting will be at 8 p.m. Friday in the new Talent High school. Officials of the bureau of reclamation and officers and board members of the TID will be on hand to answer questions.

Landowners of the district will vote at an election Aug. 22 on the contract, which has been negotiated between the district and the bureau of reclamation for repayment of about half of

the cost which is allocated to irrigation.

Walt Hoffbuhr, manager of the TID, said a majority of the eligible landowners of the district appear to favor the proposed contract, but that several questions have been brought up about which there is some misinformation or lack of information. These are the two which have caused the most concern, he said:

1. Will the district have to pay back the entire cost of the \$20 million project? (The answer: no. Power revenues will pay for much of it, and the federal government will pay for the non-reimbursable features such as flood control and recreation. The repayment contract covers only about one-fourth of the total cost, or slightly more than \$5,800,000, over a 60-year period, free of interest.

2. Will my water assessment fees go up as a result of the contract? (The answer: no. The present per-acre per-year fee is \$10.75. It is estimated that operation and maintenance costs, due to the project, will be cut in half, thus permitting the repayment to be made at no increase in assessment fees.)

The Aug. 22 election will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Talent district office in Talent. Those eligible to vote must, under Oregon law, own at least four acres within the district, and meet other voting requirements.

Hoffbuhr said it is hoped as many landowners as possible will attend the Friday meeting at the district office in Talent aspects of the proposal.

Some Awfully Dark Horses



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(Herblock is on Vacation)